

**A VIRTUAL PATH RESTORATION SCHEME USING FAST DYNAMIC
MESH RESTORATION IN AN OPTICAL NETWORK.**

Saleh, Ali Najib; Zadikian, Michael Haig; Baghdasarian, Zareh; Parsi, Vahid

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ABSTRACT

10 A method for restoring a virtual path, provisioned between a source and a
target node, in a mesh zoned optical network is described. The method, in one
embodiment, broadcasts or floods restore path requests in the network to expedite the
identification of an alternate route and minimize the service disruption for failed
virtual path. The flooding of requests is controlled to ensure efficient performance of
the network yet guaranteeing minimum restoration time to allow critical
15 telecommunication related traffic to flow through the network with virtually no
interruption. The constant update of nodal topology by each node allows a fast
identification of alternate physical path for failed virtual path.

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